

Advancing the PK-8 Model

2019



The case for change



We provide the education our students deserve to succeed in life and make our world a better place.

The guiding principles behind the PK-8 Model presented are:

1. Increase student retention in JPS
2. Improve student outcomes
3. Limit student transitions
4. Honor the Board-Adopted Master Facilities Plan
5. Increase organizational efficiency

Research to support the case



There are several factors that contribute to the success of K-8 schools:

- Ongoing communication and collaboration among staff at all grade levels¹
- Development of a curriculum that “ramps up” each year, preventing gaps or holes in nine consistent years of academic preparation¹
- Middle level grades 6, 7, and 8 obtain higher achievement in K-8 schools than in schools with middle school configurations²
- Students who attended middle schools experienced greater achievement loss in the transition to high school than students making transition from a K-8 school²

¹ Mary Tamer, “Do Middle Schools Make Sense?”

² Education Northwest, “What the Research Says (or Doesn’t Say) About K-8 Versus Middle School Grade Configurations”

Board-Approved Initiatives:

2024:The Future Our Kids Deserve & Hill Group Data Points



2024:The Future Our Kids Deserve calls for:

1. Advancement of the PK-8 model to increase student retention
2. Improve student outcomes
3. Limit transitions
4. Increase organizational efficiencies.
5. Increase our 8th grade ELA and Math Basic Plus percentages to 100%.
6. Expanding opportunities for high school Carnegie units within our PK-8 schools. This will positively increase our graduation rate and LEAP 2025 high school results by promoting the idea of “sufficiently credited” by the end of the first 9th Grade year.

The Board-approved Facilities Master Plan from 2018 (completed by MGT Consultants) recommends the following (which this proposal includes):

1. Miller Wall and Live Oak repurposed
2. Create a PK-8 school at Cherbonnier

We are able to achieve several areas of the plan, through this proposal, without seeking additional funds from the public in the form of a property tax millage.

Focusing on Academic Performance



Overwhelmingly, our 6-8 grade students in our PK-8 schools outperform our traditional middle schools.

Average 6-8 Grade in a PK-8	75.85
Average 6-8 Grade in Traditional Middle School	50.65
Difference between PK-8 and Traditional Middle 6-8 th graders SPS	25.21 ↓

School	Middle School SPS
Chateau Estates (PK-8)	91
JC Ellis (PK-8)	82.2
Rudolph Matas PK-8	76.8
Estelle School PK-8	73.9
Kenner Discovery (PK-10)	72.2
Marrero Middle (6-8)	69.9
Riverdale Middle (6-8)	67.3
Lincoln School for the Arts (PK-8)	67.2
Allen Ellender (PK-8)	64
Meilser (6-8)	61.6
Jefferson Rise (6-9)	54.7
Truman (6-8)	54.5
T. H. Harris (6-8)	52.2
Ford (6-8)	51.9
Livaudais (6-8)	48.1
Worley (6-8)	47.7
Gretna Middle (6-8)	46.7
Roosevelt (6-8)	45.9

Focusing on Attendance



“The building block that must be in place to meet student achievement and high school graduation goals is attendance.”¹

Current Traditional Middle School Daily Attendance	92.78%
Current PK-8 Daily Attendance	95.46%
Difference between PK-8 and Traditional Middle School average daily attendance	2.68%↓
Goal: 2024: <i>The Future Our Kids Deserve</i>	95%

School	Daily Student Attendance Rate
Lincoln School for the Arts (PK-8)	96.75
JC Ellis (PK-8)	96.19
Chateau Estates (PK-8)	95.83
Allen Ellender (PK-8)	95.08
Riverdale Middle (6-8)	94.51
Estelle (PK-8)	94.5
Matas (PK-8)	94.41
Meilser (6-8)	93.77
T. H. Harris (6-8)	93.19
Roosevelt (6-8)	93.19
Livaudais (6-8)	93.09
Marrero Middle (6-8)	92.95
Truman (6-8)	92.78
Adams (6-8)	92.73
Gretna Middle (6-8)	91.77
Ford (6-8)	91.33
Worley (6-8)	91.21

¹ L. Bauer, Brookings Institute, 2018

Focusing on Retention



We want to keep our kids!
Last year, we lost **550** students in
between 5th to 6th grade.

Nine (9) New PreK-8 Schools



School Name	Current School Type
Alexander	PK-5
Audubon	PK-5
Bissonet	PK-5
Cherbonnier	PK-5
Ford *	6-8
Roosevelt *	6-8
Truman *	6-8
Woodmere	PK-5
Woods	PK-5

* Option for rising 8th graders to stay at current school without transportation.

Avondale/Waggaman Transition



Schools that will shift to PK-8:

- Ford
- Cherbonnier

Schools that will be absorbed:

- Live Oak
- Strehle (Conversion to Alternative)

What will they look like 19-20?

- Ford ~ PK-8, projected enrollment 690
- Cherbonnier ~ PK-8 projected enrollment 430
- Live Oak ~ raze
- Strehle ~ Repurposed as Alternative Site

Avondale/Waggaman ~ Enrollment Impact by school



School	# of Current Students Remaining	# of Students transferring from:			
		Ford	Live Oak	Cherbonnier	Strehle
Cherbonnier	83	92	169	-	-
Ford	147	-	-	205	216
Worley	all	149	-	-	-
Mildred Harris	all	-	-	-	40

Kenner Transition



Schools that will shift to PK-8:

- Alexander
- Audubon
- Bissonet
- Roosevelt
- Woods

What will they look like beginning 19-20?

- Alexander~ PK-8, projected enrollment **580**
- Audubon~ PK-8 projected enrollment **580**
- Bissonet ~ PK-8 projected enrollment **580**
- Roosevelt~ PK- 8 projected enrollment **580**
- Woods~ PK-8 projected enrollment **330**

Kenner ~ Enrollment Impact by school



School	# of Current Students Remaining	# of Students transferring from:					
		Adams	Roosevelt	Bissonet	Woods	Audubon	Alexander
Alexander	412	21	64	-	-	-	-
Audubon	386	60	49	-	-	-	-
Bissonet	367	135	-	-	-	-	-
Roosevelt	95	-	-	205	130	72	-
Woods	127	-	59	-	-	-	84

Marrero/Harvey Transition



Schools that will shift to PK-8:

- Truman
- Woodmere

Schools that will be absorbed:

- Miller Wall

What will they look like 19-20?

- Truman ~ PK-8, projected enrollment 740* enrollment reduces to 580 by 21-22
- Woodmere ~ PK-8 projected 350 * enrollment increases to 530 by 21-22
- Miller Wall ~ exploring lease option

Harvey/Marrero ~ Enrollment Impact by school



School	# of Current Students Remaining	# of Students transferring from Wall	Notes
Truman	388	286	
Woodmere	all	-	45 students remain for 6 th grade.
Ellender	all	-	Increase of 11 Kindergarten students. Includes a boundary adjustment for CT Janet allowing for future growth.
Estelle	all	-	All 5 th graders remain for 6 th grade and creates a true PK-8 boundary for Estelle.

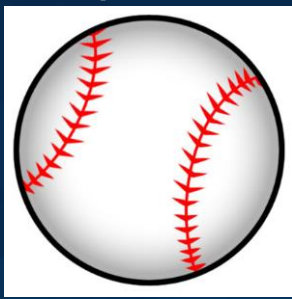
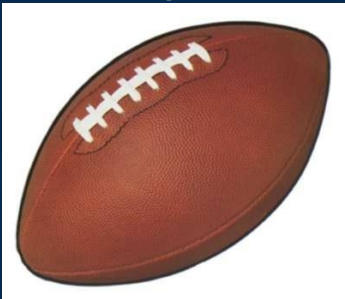
Middle School Athletics



The PK-8 transition will provide all middle school students in both traditional and PK-8 schools the opportunity to play competitive sports. The following sports will be fielded:

1. Football
2. Volleyball
3. Baseball
4. Softball
5. Basketball
6. Cheerleading

This plan incorporates afternoon tutoring/study hall for student athletes, when possible.



Middle School Athletics: Partnering with our Recreation Departments and The Hub System



Hub School	Regional Teams	Dismissal Times
Adams	Adams	2:20
	Bissonet	3:20
	Chateau	3:20
Harris	Harris	2:20
	Matas	3:50
Meisler	Meisler	2:20
	Ellis	3:50
Roosevelt	Roosevelt	3:00
	Alexander	3:40
	Audubon	3:50
	Woods	3:30
Ford	Ford	3:00
	Cherbonnier	3:20
Marrero	Marrero	3:00
	Lincoln	3:50
Truman	Truman	3:00
	Woodmere	3:50
Ellender	Ellender	3:00
	Estelle	3:50

Financial and Human Capital Efficiency



1. Any employee, with a satisfactory rating, working at a closing school will maintain their employment, salary, and benefits.
2. All employees will be transferred to another school site for the 2019-2020 school year. Employees will have input in their transfer and work site for 2019-2020, to every extent possible.
3. All Mutual Consents will be orchestrated by Human Resources and be for a period of 1 school year (2019-2020). Employees will be able to change schools for the 2020-2021 school year, if they desire and reach mutual consent.
4. The Human Resources Department will ensure that each employee is transferred on or before May 31, 2019.
5. If a teacher agrees to work at a targeted school*, they will receive an additional (transfer) \$2,000 stipend.

* Target School is defined as a school that has an economically disadvantaged percentage of 90% or more OR the ELL population is 30% or more.

Additional support to our new PK-8 Schools



1. All of these Schools will have a minimum of 1 Master Teacher.
2. Adoption of a PK-8 Administrative staffing model which affords the PK-8 Schools the opportunity for a potential Assistant Principal(s) and/or Dean(s).
3. Creating additional external partnerships for mental health in these Schools.
4. Two schools will shift to the Transformation Zone (Ford and Truman)
5. Police detail will be provided, as needed

Financial Impact of PK-8 Advancement



Purpose	Type	Estimated Amount
Savings: salaries and benefits	Recurring	\$ (115,800)
Savings: utilities, net	Recurring	(110,900)
Savings: school allocations	Recurring	(33,400)
Savings: athletics, net	Recurring	(40,200)
Cost: 15 additional transportation routes- maximum	Recurring	870,000
Cost: PE equipment	One Time	45,000
Cost: demolition of Live Oak	One Time	397,500
Cost: improvements to impacted facilities	One Time	1,150,000
Cost: technology, including relocation costs	One Time	291,400
Estimated net implementation cost		2,453,600
Releasing of existing bond funds relating to Live Oak/Wall and used to offset cost of renovations for PK-8 advancement		(1,363,725)
Net cost to General Fund		\$ 1,089,875

Estimated net cost does not include incidentals such as change in insurance costs, etc. This plan will have costs split between fiscal years 2018-19 and 2019-20. The costs will be funded by general fund and existing bond proceeds. Costs could potentially be offset by lease payments or an increase in MFP due to retention of JPS students.

Making the case



1. Increase student retention in JPS ✓

By providing parents with options to remain in JPPSS, we have the potential of retaining 500+ students each year. If we improve our retention by 100 the first year, we retain approximately \$380,000 in MFP funding. Retaining 300 students that equates to over \$1,000,000.

2. Improve student outcomes ✓

Attendance and school performance impacting SPS is higher at current K-8 schools in comparison to our traditional middle schools. Improving these data points will positively impact the future of our students.

3. Limit student transitions ✓

Although the number of students impacted by the advancement of PK-8 model may appear substantial during the 19-20 school year, our students will benefit from the consistency provided in the PK-8 model for years to come.

4. Honor the Board-Adopted Master Facilities Plan ✓

Without seeking additional funds from the public through a millage, this plan advances the Board's Master Facilities Plan.

5. Increase organizational efficiency ✓

By partnering with the Recreational Departments of our municipalities and using a hub system, we are able to offer sports to all middle school students. In addition, JPS will be maximizing financial and human capital resources.